

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

For the Year 1925.

Natural and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area, 21,026 acres. Population (Census 1921), 18,332.
Estimated (1925), 14,000.

Physical Features and General Character of the Area.

These vary from low lying land, such as the district around Ash, to slightly hilly country, such as the Hog's Back and Fox Hills, to parts situated considerably higher, such as Hindhead and Beacon Hill. The geological strata vary likewise, being composed of Bagshot sand, London clay, chalk, upper and lower green sands, and gault.

Number of inhabited houses (1921) ... 4,353

Number of families or separate occupiers (1921) 4,142

The assessable value of the district is £100,493.

Sum represented by a penny rate equals about £411.

Social Conditions and Occupations. These are largely residential and agricultural. There are no large factories in the district. There is no influence exerted on the population by any particular occupation.

Vital Statistics.

Births. Total, 265 (males 150, females 115).

Birth Rate per 1,000 population, 18.6, which compares with 18.3 for England and Wales and with the same figure for 157 of the smaller towns. Last year the birth rate was 18.2, and in 1923 it was 18.6.

Deaths. Total, 146 (males 77, females 69).

Death Rate (corrected) per 1,000 population, 8.8. For England and Wales, 12.2. For the smaller towns, 11.2.

Last year the death rate was 10.7, and the year previous 11.9

Deaths of Infants under one year of age. Total, 10.

Rate per 1,000 Births, 37. This figure compares very favourably with the death rate for England and Wales, which was 75, and with that for the smaller towns, which was 74. Last year the rate was 70, and the year previous 68.

There were no deaths recorded as due to any of the common infectious diseases, such as measles, scarlet fever, diphtheria or whooping cough.

Influenza accounted for 6 deaths.

Deaths due to cancer were 21, to heart disease 22, to pneumonia and bronchitis 18, and to tuberculosis of lungs 9.

Amount of Poor Law Relief.

Any necessitous cases, whether from sickness or poverty, can be admitted to the Farnham Union or Infirmary.

There have been no causes of sickness or invalidity which have been specially noteworthy in the area. A slight outbreak of Scarlet Fever occurred amongst the children attending Shottermill School in October, which ceased abruptly early in November.

No conditions of occupation or environment were noted to have had any prejudicial effect on the health of the inhabitants.

General Provision of Health Services in the Area.

Hospitals provided or subsidised by the Local Authority or by the County Council.

(1) *Tuberculosis.* There is no hospital nor public sanatorium for tuberculous patients in this area. Advanced cases of the disease are admitted to the Farnham Infirmary, where from 15 to 20 beds are generally occupied.

Farnham Dispensary, under the County Council.

(2) *Maternity.* None.

(3) *Children.* No special hospital, but children are admitted to the Infirmary for treatment.

The Hartley Wintney District Schools at Crondall take children over 5 years of age from this area, and provide them with board and education.

(4) *Fever.* Farnham Joint Isolation Hospital. Beds, 50. Takes cases of Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Typhoid and Paratyphoid, Cerebro-Spinal Fever.

(5) *Small-Pox.* Clandon Hospital, under the County Council.

(6) *Others.* Farnham Infirmary. Beds. Total in the Union, 500. For sick, 165.

Unmarried mothers, illegitimate infants and homeless children can be admitted to the Infirmary.

Ambulance Facilities.

(a) *For Infectious Cases.* Up to the present a horse ambulance under the control of the Isolation Hospital has been used. A motor ambulance has now been purchased, and for the future will be used for all cases.

(b) *For Non-Infectious and Accident Cases.* A motor ambulance has been provided, and is kept up by public subscription. It is controlled by the St. John Ambulance Association.

Clinics and Treatment Centres.

Maternity and Child Welfare Centres. These are now under the County Council.

Day Nurseries. None.

School Clinics. None.

Tuberculosis Dispensaries. Under the County Council. One at Farnham, one at Guildford. Patients from this area attend each of the above.

Treatment Centres for Venereal Diseases. Guildford is the nearest Centre, under the County Council. There is also a Centre at Aldershot, which is used by some patients in the area.

Public Health Officers of the Local Authority.

One part-time Medical Officer of Health. Two whole-time Sanitary Inspectors, who both hold certificates of the Sanitary Institute.

Professional Nursing in the Home.

(a) *General.* There are several Nurses working in the district supported by voluntary contributions. Each area has a Health Visitor working under the County Council.

(b) *For Infectious Diseases.* No Special Nurses are allotted. During an outbreak of any particular disease the Health Visitors or School Nurses visit the homes of children absent from school.

Midwives. There are several practising in the area. They are not employed by, nor under the control of, the Rural District Council.

Chemical Work. This is carried out by Dr. George Brown, D.Sc., who has a laboratory in Farnham, and examines specimens of water, sewage, etc., as required. Results are quite satisfactory.

Legislation in Force. Local Acts, none. Special Local Orders, none.

General Adoptive Acts and Bye-laws relating to the Public Health as follows :—

URBAN POWERS IN FORCE IN THE DISTRICT
IN THE WHOLE COUNCIL'S AREA.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1875.

<i>Date of Order.</i>	<i>Section of Act.</i>	<i>Powers.</i>
16. 12. 1907.	25	Penalty on erecting buildings on ground filled up with offensive matter.
20. 8. 1886. } 18. 5. 1893. } 20. 12. 1899. }	44	To make bye-laws as to cleansing, etc.
2. 2. 1898.	47 (1) (2)	As to nuisances from swine, stagnant water or overflow from cesspools.
14. 12. 1907.	66	Power to provide hydrants.
20. 8. 1886. } 18. 5. 1893. } 20. 12. 1899. }	157	Power to make Building Bye-laws, etc.
20. 8. 1886. } 20. 12. 1899. }	158	Power to pull down buildings erected contrary to bye laws in Ash, Frensham and Shottermill, especially by Orders, and over whole district by adoption of Part III. of Act of 1890.
28. 7. 1900. } 10. 8. 1907. }	160	So far as it incorporates Towns Improvement Clauses Act, 1847, Section 74, and the provisions with respect to precautions during construction and repair of sewers, streets and houses.
28. 7. 1900.	169 170	Applies provisions of Towns Improvement Clauses Act, 1847, with respect to slaughter houses.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS AMENDMENT ACT, 1890.

<i>Date of Order.</i>	<i>Section of Act.</i>	<i>Powers.</i>
18. 5. 1893. 20. 12. 1899. 14. 3. 1901.	23	Extension of powers as to building bye-laws.
18. 5. 1893. 20. 12. 1899. 14. 3. 1901.	25	Penalty on erecting buildings on ground filled up with offensive matter.
8. 11. 1913.	29, 30 & 31	As to slaughter houses.
18. 5. 1893. 20. 12. 1899. 14. 3. 1901.	33	Buildings described in deposited plans otherwise than as dwelling houses not to be used as such.
15. 9. 1924.	Part IV.	Public Music and Dancing.

ORDERS APPLICABLE TO ASH ALONE.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1875.

20. 8. 1886.	26 (1)	No building to be erected over sewers without consent.
6. 10. 1913.	160 (1)	Applying provisions of Towns Improvement Clauses Act, 1847, with respect to naming Streets and numbering houses.
12. 10. 1905.	171 (4)	Applying provisions of Towns Police Clauses Act, 1847, with respect to Hackney Carriages.

ORDER APPLICABLE TO FARNHAM RURAL ALONE.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1875.

4. 5. 1908.	45	Power to provide receptacles for deposit of ashes and rubbish.
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PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS AMENDMENT ACT, 1907.

By Order of the Local Government Board dated the 14th January, 1911, it was declared that after the 4th March, 1911, the following provisions are to be in force within the Council's District.

Part II.

Sections 15, 16, 17, 18, 20, 22, 23, 24, 25x, 27x, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32 and 33.

Part III.

Sections 34, 35x, 36, 37, 38x, 43, 44, 45 and 46.

Part IV.

Sections 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59x, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66 and 67.

Part V.

The whole.

Part X.

Section 95.

x N.B.—The Sections above mentioned and marked x—

Part II, Sections 25 and 27,

Part III, Sections 35 and 38,

Part IV, Section 59,

Part V, Section 75,

are subject to certain minor conditions and adaptations as set out in the Schedule to the Order, which should be referred to before any proceedings are taken.

Local Government and other Officers' Superannuation Act, 1922.

At a special Meeting of the Council held on the 15th August, 1924, it was resolved that the above Act be adopted as from 1st October, 1924.

Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts, 1899—1923.

At a Meeting of the Council held on the 27th February, 1925, the Council undertook to act under these Acts.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

Water. All the populous parts of the district are supplied from the mains by one or other of the following Companies :—

Wey Valley Water Company.

Frimley and Farnborough Water Company.

Aldershot Gas and Water Company.

The supplies are constant and the great majority of the houses in the villages have water laid on, but there are still a few houses here and there dependent on wells and underground rain water tanks.

In Mr. Cooper's district of the Wey Valley Water Company the mains have been extended about 900 yards, totalling 64 miles of mains. Twenty-six houses were connected during 1925, making 1,686 houses and 25 huts connected.

In Mr. Mitchell's district of the same Company there are 21 miles 360 yards of mains. The mains have been extended 650 yards in Frensham. Thirty-four houses were connected in 1925, making 900 altogether.

The Frimley and Farnborough Water Company has 15 miles 857 yards of mains in this district. The mains have been extended in Normandy and Ash 410 yards, 80 houses being connected during the year, making 925 altogether.

The Aldershot Water Company has 3,420 yards of mains and 161 houses connected in the Tongham district, three houses having been connected during the year.

In the whole area there are 102 miles 1,117 yards of mains, and 3,697 houses are connected.

The Council carry out the provisions of the Public Health (Water) Act, 1878. Water from a proposed supply from a well is always first analysed.

Eleven samples of water have been submitted to Dr. Brown for analysis with the following results :—Good, 4; bad, 5; suspicious, 1; highway surface water drain, 1. Total, 11.

Water Certificates.

The following table shows the number of houses erected in each Parish to which a Water Certificate has been granted, and the source of supply :—

Parish.	Certificates Granted	Number of Houses	Sub- sidised Houses	Wey Valley Water Co.	Frimley & Alder- Farnboro' Water Co.	Alder- shot Water Co.	Well or Tank
Ash	42	46	33	—	46	—	—
Farnham Rural	2	2	—	2	—	—	—
Frensham	42	45	20	44	—	—	1
Shottermill	15	15	11	15	—	—	—
Seale	4	4	2	3	—	1	—
Totals	105	112	66	64	46	1	1

Rivers and Streams.

The Wey and Blackwater Rivers receive the effluents of several of the sewage works as they pass through the district. No cause of complaint has come to notice regarding these effluents.

One complaint was received regarding the pollution of a surface road drain in the Ash district. It was found that the occupants of certain houses had been carelessly emptying buckets of waste and sink water into the ditches around their gardens. This was put a stop to at once.

The Inspectors of the Thames Conservancy keep a strict watch on all likely sources of contamination entering the rivers or streams.

Drainage and Sewage.

The only portion of the district which has a system of sewers is Shottermill. These lead to a Disposal Works, which takes the sewage of about 2,000 people and deals with it in a most satisfactory manner.

The provision of sewage installations for Hindhead, Ash and Tongham are now under consideration, and plans are being drawn up. Both these districts are growing, and each year the need for a water carriage system of drainage becomes more urgent.

These works would have been pushed on long since, but for the expense involved, and for the various questions as to how the increase of rates is to be met by the parishes concerned. In poor class districts, such as Ash and Tongham, this matter needs the utmost consideration.

Closet Accommodation. The majority of the closets are of the pail type, dry earth being used, and the contents dug into the gardens. Tongham is the only district in which removal of pail contents is carried out. There are a certain number of the old privy type of closet remaining, but these are being done away with as opportunity occurs.

Scavenging. As mentioned above, Tongham is the only area in which a system of refuse and pail contents removal is in force. In all other districts the refuse is burnt or dug into the ground. It is extremely difficult to prevent people depositing rubbish and refuse in places where they think it will not be noticed, and on several occasions lately action has had to be taken against occupiers of certain houses owing to this cause.

Where cesspits are in use, these are either emptied as required by the owners or, in the case of such places as schools, by contract.

The cesspool system at Ash is inefficient, the ground being low-lying and frequently waterlogged, and the cesspools not watertight. These cannot be properly emptied, and are frequently full. Owing to this the occupants of houses use the cesspools as little as possible, and in some cases dispose of their waste water by means of the surface water drains.

Owing to the character and situation of the cesspools, a systematic scheme of scavenging is not feasible. This is one of the chief reasons why a system of drainage is so desirable.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area. This is dealt with under the Sanitary Inspector's Report of defects and nuisances.

Smoke Abatement. No action has had to be taken with a view to the abatement of nuisance from smoke.

*Premises and Occupations which can be controlled by
Bye-laws or Regulations.*

Houses Let in Lodgings. Inspections are made of any houses where sub-letting is going on and a likelihood of overcrowding taking place.

Offensive Trades. There is only one such in the area, and that has been conducted without nuisance.

Lodging and Accommodation of Hop Pickers. The hop fields in the area are of small size, and no large numbers of pickers are employed.

Schools. These have been inspected regularly from time to time. Any defects noted have been brought to the notice of the Education Authorities.

The Schools have been well kept and are in a sanitary condition. Epidemics of measles and scarlet fever have occurred in some of the Schools, but in no case has it been considered expedient to close them. Under the School Regulations it is not permissible to close any part of a school without the whole. When measles is commencing to increase, it is the infants and younger classes which are chiefly affected, and if these could be closed early on it would probably go far in limiting the spread of the disease.

Factories, Workshops, Workplaces, etc.

(1) Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Premises.	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Prosecutions.
Factories (including factory laundries)	2	1	—
Workshops (including workshop laundries)	11	3	—
Workplaces (other than outworkers' premises)	2	—	—
Totals ...	15	4	—

(2) Defects found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces :—

Nuisances under the Public Health Act.

Particulars.	Number Found.	Defects Remedied.
Want of Cleanliness	2	2
Other Nuisances	3	3
Sanitary Accommodation Insufficient	1	1
Totals	6	6

Housing.

(1) (i.) The general housing conditions in the area are of a fair standard. There are, however, a considerable number of cottages which are in need of complete renovation or even of demolition, if accommodation could elsewhere be obtained.

(ii.) (a) The extent of shortage of houses of a small kind is still considerable.

(b) The Council are now erecting another 20 such houses at Shawfields, Ash. The houses already erected by the Council in various parts of the district have been highly appreciated, and when a vacancy occurs there are always many applicants. Some further extension of such housing provision is undoubtedly desirable from the people's point of view. They certainly supply an urgent need.

Plans have been passed for 48 houses, 81 subsidised houses, 37 other buildings, 3 temporary buildings and 5 wooden huts.

They are distributed as follows :—

Parish.	Houses.	Subsidised Houses.	Wooden Huts.	Other Buildings.	Temp. Buildings.	New Roads.	New Drainage.
Ash	12	39	2	5	1	1	—
Farnham Rural	2	1	—	—	—	—	—
Frensham	29	27	3	21	2	1	1
Shottermill	3	13	—	11	—	—	—
Seale	2	1	—	—	—	—	—
	48	81	5	37	3	2	1

(2) *Overcrowding.* Owing to the shortage of small houses, there is always a tendency to sub-letting becoming excessive, and a close watch has to be kept on all houses taking in sub-tenants or lodgers.

Ten cases of overcrowding were discovered and dealt with in 23 houses inspected for overcrowding.

There is still a considerable demand for small houses at a somewhat lower rental. The majority of those existing generally range from about 10/- per week upwards. This causes a tendency of the occupiers to sub-let.

(3) *Fitness of Houses.* The general standard of fitness may be classed as good. In the low-lying area such as Ash, Ash Vale and Tongham there is always considerable trouble from dampness, owing to the high level of the sub-soil water.

As regards defects due to lack of proper management, faults when found, are about equally divided between owners and tenants.

Action taken as regards unfit houses will be found under Housing Statistics.

(4) *Unhealthy Areas.* The only really insanitary area in the district is the Quadrant, Ash, where the gipsies have taken up their location. The conditions have been reported to the Ministry, and a full report is at present being prepared in order to see what action can be taken to improve matters.

(5) The bye-laws have been found sufficient for all purposes, and are up to date, new ones having been adopted in 1924.

Housing Statistics for the Year 1925.

Number of new houses erected during the year :—

(a) Total, 173.

(b) With State Assistance under the Housing Acts, 1923, 1924, 1925 : 112.

(i.) By Local Authority : 20 in course of erection.

(ii.) By other bodies or persons : 61.

(1) Unfit Dwelling Houses :—

Inspection. (i.) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) : 163.

(ii.) Number of dwelling houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910 : 141.

(iii.) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation : 21.

(iv.) Number of houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation : 35.

(2) Remedy of Defects without Service of Formal Notice :

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers : 18.

(3) Action under Statutory Powers :—

(a) Proceedings under section 3 of the Housing Act, 1925.

(i.) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs : 28.

(ii.) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—

(a) By owners 28

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners 0

(iii.) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close : 1.

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—

(i.) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied : 48.

(ii.) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :

(a) By owners 48

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners 0

(c) Proceedings under sections 11, 14 and 15 of the Housing Act, 1925 :—

(i.) Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders : 1.

(ii.) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made : 1.

(iii.) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling houses having been rendered fit : 0.

(iv.) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made : 1.

(v.) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders : 0.

The following classifications show the number and nature of the nuisances dealt with :—

	Houses	redrained	...	...	...	...	2
...	Other defects of drains	remedied	...	...	...	...	17
	New w.e. pans	fixed	...	...	...	...	1
	New pedestal w.e.'s	fixed	...	...	...	...	4
	New flushing cisterns	provided to existing w.e.'s	...	...	...	...	2
	Flushing cisterns	repaired	...	...	...	...	2
	New w.e.'s	built	...	...	...	...	2
	Dilapidated w.c.'s	repaired	...	...	...	...	7
	Sink gullies	refixed	...	...	...	...	3
	New vent shafts	erected	...	...	...	...	3
	Choking in ventilating shafts	removed	...	...	...	...	2
	New inspection chambers	provided	...	...	...	...	3
	Fresh air inlets	provided	...	...	...	...	2
	New seullery sinks	fixed	...	...	...	...	5
	Houses connected to sewer	...	...	...	...	...	12
	Chokage of drains	removed	...	...	...	...	11
	Back yards	repaired	...	...	...	...	5
	Eaves, guttering and down spouts	repaired	...	...	...	...	23
	Defective roofs	repaired	...	...	...	...	39
	Damp walls	remedied	...	...	...	...	13
	Internal walls of houses	cleaned	...	...	...	...	39
	Accumulation of offensive matter	...	...	...	...	...	11
	Windows made to open	...	...	...	...	...	7
	Defective floors	repaired	...	...	...	...	19
	House walls and ceilings	repaired	...	...	...	...	31
	Stairs	repaired	...	...	...	...	9
	Drains opened and examined	...	...	...	...	...	29
	Piggeries removed	...	...	...	...	...	5
	Piggeries re-erected	...	...	...	...	...	3
	Chimney heads	re-built	...	...	...	...	7
	Dilapidated e.c.'s	repaired	...	...	...	...	7
	Privy middens	removed	...	...	...	...	4
	Sink wastes	repaired	...	...	...	...	9
	Manhole covers	renewed	...	...	...	...	2
	Inspection of slaughter-houses (Meat Regu- tions)	...	...	...	...	...	33

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

(a) *Milk Supply.* All cowsheds and dairies in the area have been regularly inspected, and notice has been drawn to any defects which may have arisen. Many of the buildings in use as cowsheds are of an old-fashioned type, and not adapted to modern requirements. They are in most cases kept clean, and whitewashed twice each year or oftener.

During the winter months, when the cows are in the sheds most of the day, they become very fouled with dung, unless constant care and attention are paid to both the animals and stalls. It is very hard to make cowkeepers realise the dangers to the contamination of the milk from dirty animals and unclean surroundings. It is easy to lay down precepts for their guidance, but extremely difficult to have these precepts carried out. To ensure cleanliness in the milk business constant supervision and careful labour are imperative.

- (1) No case of tuberculous milk has been reported.
- (2) One licence only was granted under special designations.
- (3) No refusals nor revocation of registration were put in force.

(b) *Meat.* (1) Inspections of supplies are made periodically at both slaughter houses, shops and stalls.

No formal seizure of meat was made under Section 117 of the Public Health Act, but 61 pounds of chilled beef were destroyed after notice from the owner. Meat or carcasses condemned are destroyed at Bartrams, the knackers, of Ash.

The sale of fresh meat is by no means large, as the majority of householders rely for their supplies on imported material.

(2) The Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924, suffice for any needs in this area.

(3) The management of the public slaughter houses has been carried out in a satisfactory manner. Inspections have been made periodically.

			In 1920.	In Jan., 1925.	In Dec., 1925.
Registered	...	...	6	7	7
Licensed	...	...	6	7	7
			<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	...	...	12	14	14
			<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

(c) *Other Foods. Bakehouses.* There are nine bakehouses in the district, and these have been inspected from time to time, and the regulations are usually well observed. Two preliminary notices were issued in respect of dirty floors, and the conditions promptly remedied.

(d) No cases of food poisoning have occurred in the area.

(e) *Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.* The County Council Authorities took samples of the following during the year :—

Milk, 32. Adulterated, 3; Prosecutions, 1.

Cream, 2.

Butter, 5.

Confectionery, 1.

Other Articles, 2. Adulterated, 2.

Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious Diseases.

There has been no special prevalence of any infectious disease. Measles has been the one which has caused the most trouble amongst the school children.

Diphtheria antitoxin is always available at the Isolation Hospital.

Pathological and bacteriological specimens are sent to the laboratory of Dr. Routley at Aldershot for examination and report.

No use has been made of the Schick or Dick tests, as the necessity has not arisen.

The masters of the various schools report direct to the Medical Officer of Health, when any cases of sickness occur in their schools.

Facilities for disinfection are available at the Isolation Hospital.

Disinfection of the premises is regularly carried out by the Sanitary Inspectors on the occurrence of any case of infectious disease.

Notifiable Diseases other than Tuberculosis during the Year 1925.

Disease.		Total cases. notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Small-pox	...	...	—	—
Scarlet Fever	...	37	33	—
Diphtheria	...	2	2	—
Enteric Fever	...	3	2	—
Puerperal Fever	...	—	—	—
Pneumonia	...	2	—	—

The case rate per 1,000 living was as follows compared with the case rate for England and Wales :—

Scarlet Fever, 2.6. England and Wales, 2.36.

Diphtheria, 0.14. England and Wales, 1.23.

Tuberculosis.

New Cases and Mortality during 1925.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.	Non-Pulmonary.	Pulmonary.	Non-Pulmonary.	Pulmonary.	Non-Pulmonary.	Pulmonary.	Non-Pulmonary.
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
10	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25	1	2	—	—	2	2	—	—
35	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
55	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 and upwards	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
Totals	4	6	1	1	3	3	—	—

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925. No action has had to be taken under these regulations.

Public Health Act, 1925, Section 62. No action had to be taken under this Section.

Note.—The Ministry ask in their Circular 648, dated 10th December, 1925, that the Report for 1925 shall be a Survey Report, dealing with all matters connected with Public Health in the District over the proceeding five years.

As the duties of Medical Officer of Health were only taken over by me on October 1st, 1925, it has been impossible to make this report from first-hand knowledge. Every endeavour has been made to obtain the fullest information under the various headings, and I have to thank Mr. Patrick, the Chief Sanitary Inspector, for many of the details contained therein.

P. FOWLER,

Medical Officer of Health,

Farnham Rural District.